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STATINTL

By Henry J. Taylor

Red Intrigue Wears Many Hues

The Associated Press photograph of handcuffed assassin Lee Harvey Oswald giving the hammer-and-sickle (clenched fist) salute in the Dallas jail should not be forgotten in the confused contentions about what kind of America we have today.



It's a picture of pure communism in practice. That fact should not be lost in the debris.

Except for this, Lee Oswald teaches us no more about America than a leopard in a zoo and is about as indicative of true American problems (including civil rights) as was Stalin himself; a man whose agent—alias Jacques Mornard—assassinated Leon Trotsky with an Alpine climber's ax 11 years after Trotsky's exile and a half a world away from home.

The Castro Communists' kidnaping of U.S. Col. James K. Chenault in Caracas is pure Communist in practice. In June, Reds had attacked our Venezuelan military mission headquarters and set it afire in the same pattern that they burned the British embassy in Jakarta Sept. 16. This is also pure communism in practice, as was the Nov. 28 terrorist hijacking of the Venezuelan airliner at gunpoint.

Nothing changes. Valeriy Zorin, the Soviet ambassador to the U.N., masterminded the assassinations in the 1948 Czechoslovakian Communist coup from within the Soviet embassy in Prague.

Poland? The hard core of terrorists there today consists of wartime Communists who fled Warsaw to Moscow and returned to Poland in 1944 with Polish military units accompanying the Red Army. Moreover, Soviet intelligence picked up everywhere, and employs, all the former Nazi SS assassins it could find.

A central and permanent feature of Soviet policy is to cash in on the prestige of violence. Serving this purpose of violence, as well as specific political objectives, the Reds never run out of rope.

The Kremlin also maintains a special department of the Soviet Security Service (KGB) known as the "Disinformation Bureau" for manipulating misinformation. Read all about this in former Central Intelligence Agency chief Allen Dulles' current "The Craft of Intelligence," a vital, revealing, remarkable book.

For it also shows—the number officially revealed for the first time—that the Soviet had "over 40 high-level agents in various departments and agencies in Washington during World War II."

Are there fewer now? This is pure communism in practice.

So is the Nov. 15 notice in the newspaper Pravda Vostoka. It states that three Baptist women missionaries in Namangan are sentenced to two years in prison. They're accused of "organizing secret meetings of an unregistered Baptist sect."

Their crime is "transcribing and distributing so-called Baptist hymns by means of which the character and world outlook of a granddaughter were influenced."

It's just the same in Cuba, where if your neighbor does not like you, his word can kill you.

We abhor slums and maybe you can blame Al Capone on the slums of Chicago, although I don't think so; the same slums that produced many a fine governor and countless civic leaders in the State of Illinois. But to blame American society for President Kennedy's horrible assassination and gratuitously drag in the grievous problem of integration, indict "the American soul," etc., is as preposterous as it is mysterious.

Immediately after Oswald's identification, the State Department asked newsmen to play down the possibility that Oswald was a Castro or Kremlin agent, suggesting this could damage Soviet relations.

And at this writing there is no known evidence of either link. But does it follow from this that blame be placed on nearly everything except Communist behaviorism—worldwide and traditional?

This was no ordinary murder. Our President was killed. Oswald was no ordinary Texan. He had no more roots in Dallas or Texas or America as a whole than in Timbuktu.

But if this bestial act is to teach us anything it should at least teach us the penalty of softheadedness, supineness and apology for a doctrine that has always taught murder as an instrument of national policy whether this particular man was an agent for it or not; a man utterly disciplined in his task and even at the police station.

STATINTNL

DORIS FLEESON

Members of Assassination Probe

Makeup Conveys Idea Johnson Seeks Widest Possible Acceptance of Verdict

Chief Justice Warren did not immediately accept President Johnson's invitation to head a special commission to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy.

The Chief Justice asked and received time to reflect upon the task in all its aspects, including his duty to the Supreme Court. He was mindful of his position as the chief target of what he called at the slain President's bier the "forces of hatred and malevolence such as today are eating their way into the bloodstream of American life."

Now he has put his hand to the plow and those long in close association with him regard it as unthinkable that he should turn back. It is equally unthinkable that he would set down aught in malice, whatever his personal position.

Washington has speculated furiously about the commission since it was announced Friday night. It quickly noted that five of its seven members are Republicans, three are Southerners. One, banker John J. McCloy, has been called head of the

American Establishment, a phrase used to denote the powerful and more or less permanent business and economic interests of the country.

Justice Warren still sits at the head of the commission table, armed with the dignity of his great office, his matchless experience of men and conflicting social forces learned in 33 years in public office in great and growing California. He is also almost uniquely free. What person or interest now can hurt or help him?

President Johnson is specially qualified to appreciate the powers of a chairman, a fact which gives great importance to his choice of Warren. It amounts virtually to a declaration that the investigation will be what Warren chooses to make of it.

The choice also puts the President squarely behind the Chief Justice at this troubled point in the fight for racial justice. This will not be lost upon another commission member, Senator Russell of Georgia, who will lead the South's effort to veto the

Kennedy-Johnson civil rights bill in Congress.

The FBI and CIA are widely criticized here for seeming lapses in keeping tabs on the Kennedy assassin, former Marine Lee Oswald, a one-time defector to the Soviet Union and self-appointed agent for "Fair Play for Cuba."

The Johnson panel includes Representative Gerald Ford, Michigan Republican and certain FBI defender, as well as Republican Allen Dulles, until lately head of the CIA. This is a typical operation of Lyndon Johnson, the Senate leader who strove for balance and public acceptance of his moves.

The overriding impression given by the panel is that the new President was seeking the widest popular acceptance of its verdict, whatever turn the effort might take. It is a hard and grave responsibility for the panel members.

Chief Justice Warren made his own strong feeling clear at the Kennedy bier that the extremists in this country bear a heavy weight of guilt when he spoke of those "who would themselves recoil from assassination but who do not shrink from spreading the venom which kindles thoughts of it in others."